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Claim 1 (Currently Amended) A distillate fraction useful as a fuel heavier than gasoline or as a blending component for a distillate fuel comprising:

a 250-700°F distillate fraction derived from a Fischer-Tropsch catalytic process and containing

at least 95 wt. % paraffins

a cetane number of at least 60

≤ 50 ppm (wt) each of sulfur and nitrogen
less than about 0.5 wt. % unsaturates, and
about 0.0025 to less than 0.3 wt. % linear C₁₂-C₂₄ primary alcohol
oxygenates as oxygen on a water free basis.

Claim 2 (Previously Presented) The material of claim 1 wherein the oxygen is present primarily as  $C_{12}$ - $C_{24}$  linear alcohols.

Claim 3 (Cancelled)

Claim 4 (Previously Presented) The material of claim 2 characterized by a cetane number of at least 70.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended) A process for producing a distillate fuel heavier than gasoline comprising:

(a) separating the wax-containing product of a Fischer-Tropsch process into a heavier fraction containing 700°F+ hydrocarbons and a lighter fraction containing 700°F- hydrocarbons;

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- (b) further separating the lighter fraction into at least two other fractions, (i) one of which contains primary C<sub>12+</sub> alcohols; and (ii) one of which does not contain said alcohols;
- (c) hydroisomerizing at least a portion of the heavier fraction of step (a) and a t least a portion of the (b)(ii) fraction at hydroisomerization conditions and recovering a 700°F- fraction; and
- (d) blending at least a portion of the fraction of (b)(i) with at least a portion of the 700°F- fractions of step (c) and recovering a product boiling in the range of 250-700°F which contains 0.0025 to 0.3 wt.% C<sub>12</sub>-C<sub>24</sub> primary linear alcohol oxygenate, as oxygen on a water free basis.

Claim 6 (Cancelled)

Claim 7 (Cancelled)

Claim 8 (Previously Presented) The product of claim 5.

Claim 9 (Cancelled)

Claim 10 (Cancelled)

Claim 11 (Cancelled)

Claim 12 (Original) The process of claim 5 wherein the Tropsch process is characterized by non-shifting conditions.

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Claim 13 (Original) The process of claim 5 characterized in that the fraction b (ii) is 500°F-.

Claim 14 (Original) The process of claim 5 characterized in that the fraction b (ii) is 600°F-.

Claim 15 (Currently Amended) A blended fuel, useful as a diesel fuel, comprising:

(a) a 250-700°F distillate fraction derived from the Fischer-Tropsch process which contains;

at least 95 wt. % paraffins
a cetane number of at least 60
≤ 50 ppm (wt) each of sulfur and nitrogen
less than about 0.5 wt. % unsaturates, and
about 0.0025 to less than 0.3 wt. % linear C₁₂-C₂₄ primary alcohol
oxygenates as oxygen on a water free basis,
blended with

(b) a hydrocarbon fraction.

Claim 16 (Previously Presented) A blended fuel according to claim 15 wherein said Fischer-Tropsch process is a non-shifting Fischer-Tropsch catalyst process.

Claim 17 (Previously Presented) A blended fuel according to claim 16 wherein said Fischer-Tropsch catalyst comprises cobalt.

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Claim 18 (Currently Amended) A blended fuel according to claim 15 wherein said hydrocarbon fraction contains feeds of about the same boiling range as the 250-700°F distillate fraction derived from the Fischer-Tropsch process.

Claim 19 (Currently Amended) A blended fuel according to claim 15 or 18 wherein hydrocarbon is selected from the group consisting of raw distillates, raw gas oils, hydrogenated catalytic distillates, hydrogenated catalytic gas oils, thermally cracked distillates, and thermally cracked oils.

Claim 20 (Previously Presented) A distillate fraction according to claim 1 containing less than or equal to 15 ppm (wt) each of sulfur and nitrogen, and less than about 0.1 wt% unsaturates.

Claim 21 (Previously Presented) A distillate fraction according to claim 20 containing less than or equal to 10 ppm (wt) each of sulfur and nitrogen.

Claim 22 (Cancelled)

Claim 23 (Currently Amended) A heavier than gasoline distillate fraction useful as a fuel composition or a blending component therefor, comprising a C<sub>5</sub>-500°F boiling range fraction recovered from a Fischer-Tropsch hydrocarbon synthesis reactor wherein said fraction contains less than or equal to 50 ppm (wt) sulfur; less than or equal to 50 ppm (wt) nitrogen; virtually no aromatics; less than or equal to 0.5 wt. % olefins; and at least 0.001 wt. % oxygenate as oxygen as determined on a water free basis.

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Claim 24 (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 23 wherein said fuel or blending component contains less than 15 ppm (wt) dioxygenates.

Claim 25 (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 23 wherein said distillate fraction boils in the range of C<sub>5</sub>-600°F.

Claim 26 (Currently Amended) A blended fuel, useful as a diesel fuel comprising a 500°-700°F+ boiling range fraction recovered from a Fischer-Tropsch hydrocarbon synthesis reactor blended with a hydroisomerized 700°F+ Fischer-Tropsch derived reactor product wherein said blend boils in the range of 250°-700°F, and wherein at least a portion of said 700°F+ Fischer-Tropsch derived reactor product is combined with a lighter C<sub>5</sub>-500°F boiling range Fischer-Tropsch derived reactor product prior to hydroisomerization.

Claim 27 (Cancelled)

Claim 28 (Currently Amended) The blended fuel of claim 27 wherein said lighter Fischer-Tropsch product boils in the range of C<sub>5</sub>-500°F.

Claim 29 (Previously Presented) The blend of claim 26 wherein said 500-700°F fraction contains about 0.001 to less than 0.3 wt% oxygen as determined on a water-free basis.

Claim 30 (Previously Presented) The blend of claim 29 wherein said oxygen is present primarily as  $C_{12}$ - $C_{24}$  linear alcohols.

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## Facsimile

## **E**xonMobil

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From Mark D. Marin

Our Ref: P1995J076 US3

Law Department - Downstream

Date April 9, 2004

Pages: Cover + 5 pages

## PLEASE HAND DELIVER

Per your request, attached are the claims for USSN 08/971,254 as they currently stand with identifiers.

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